



**Martin O'Malley, Governor   Anthony Brown, Lieutenant Governor  
Israel C. Patoka, Executive Director**

**Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture  
Theodore Mack, Chair**

*The Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture serves as the statewide clearinghouse for preserving evidence of and documenting the African-American experience in Maryland. It specializes in research assistance and collection of historical materials - art objects, memorabilia, manuscripts, photographs, and other articles of significance to African-American history and culture. The Commission provides exhibits, programs and resource materials for education systems, institutions and the community at large.*

**July 8, 2013**

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**MARYLAND COMMISSION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND  
CULTURE AND MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST PROVIDE \$1,000,000  
TO ASSIST AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE PRESERVATION**

CROWNSVILLE, MD (July 8, 2013) –Nonprofit groups, local governments, and businesses around Maryland have received 12 grants totaling \$1,000,000 in FY2014 through the African American Heritage Preservation Program (AAHPP), a partnership of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC) and the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT).

The goal of the AAHPP is to identify and preserve buildings, communities and sites of historical and cultural importance to the African American experience in Maryland. The program offers assistance to non-profit organizations, local jurisdictions, business entities, and private citizens in their sponsorship of successful acquisition, construction, or improvement of African American heritage projects. This year's grant awards ranged from \$13,000 to \$100,000.

The mission of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC) is to interpret, document, preserve, and promote Maryland's African American heritage; to provide technical assistance to institutions and groups with similar objectives; and to educate Maryland's citizens and visitors about the significance of the African American experience in Maryland and the nation. MCAAHC is housed within the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives.

The Maryland Historical Trust is an agency of the Maryland Department of Planning. The MHT was formed in 1961 to assist the people of Maryland in identifying, studying, evaluating, preserving, protecting, and interpreting the state's significant prehistoric and historic districts, sites, structures, cultural landscapes, heritage areas, cultural objects, and artifacts, as well as less tangible human and community traditions. Through research, conservation and education, the MHT assists the people of Maryland in understanding their historical and cultural heritage.

AAHPP applications for FY 2015 funding are available on MHT's website at [http://mht.maryland.gov/grants\\_africanamerican.html](http://mht.maryland.gov/grants_africanamerican.html). Applications must be postmarked by July 15, 2013. NOTE: See the attached list for details on all grants awarded.

For more information about the grant program, please contact Anne Raines (MHT) at 410-514-7634 or [araines@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:araines@mdp.state.md.us), or Dr. Joni Jones (MCAAHC) at 410-216-6180 or [jjones@goci.state.md.us](mailto:jjones@goci.state.md.us). You may also visit MHT on the web at [www.mht.maryland.gov](http://www.mht.maryland.gov). For information about the organizations receiving grants, please contact the institutions directly.

## FY 2014 African American Heritage Preservation Program Grant Awards

COUNTY	APPLICANT	PROJECT TYPE	AMOUNT AWARDED
Baltimore	The Louis S. Diggs Research Center for African American History, Inc.	Louis S. Diggs Research Center for African-American History Improvements	\$100,000
Baltimore	Grace A.M.E. Community Development Corporation	Samuel & Ida Torsell Mini-Museum Improvements	\$69,000
Dorchester	The Friends of Stanley Institute, Inc.	Christ Rock Methodist Episcopal Church Renovation	\$100,000
Frederick	Bartonsville Community Cemetery	Bartonsville Community Cemetery Improvements	\$13,000
Kent	GAR Post #25, Inc.	Charles Sumner Post #25 Improvements	\$100,000
Montgomery	Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, Sandy Spring Lodge #6430, Inc.	Sandy Spring Odd Fellows Lodge Renovation	\$100,000
Queen Anne's	Kennard Alumni Association, Inc.	Kennard High School Restoration	\$100,000
Somerset	Oriole Historical Society, Inc.	St. James Methodist Episcopal Church Improvements	\$100,000
St. Mary's	Historic Sotterley, Inc.	Sotterley Plantation Improvements	\$100,000
Talbot	Historic Easton, Incorporated	Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church Restoration	\$100,000
Talbot	Bethel A.M.E. Church, Inc.	Bethel AME Church Improvements	\$18,000
Wicomico	The Chipman Foundation, Inc.	Charles H. Chipman Center Improvements	\$100,000
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>